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201 FILE
EXEC. REG.

26 February 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Public Affairs

ATTENTION:

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FROM:

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Acting Director, Foreign Broadcast Information
Service

SUBJECT: Possible Material for DCI's Notes

REFERENCE: Your request of 25 February 1981

Chuck:

1. Attached is a draft item which you might want to use for the DCI's Notes, per your request.

2. The extra material attached is a xerox of material we are including in the FBIS NEWSLETTER in the event you need additional or different data.

3. Don't hesitate to call if I can be of further help.

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Attachments:

- A. Draft item for DCI Notes
- B. Material appearing in FBIS NEWSLETTER

Downgraded to UNCLASSIFIED/
ADMINISTRATIVE-INTERNAL USE
ONLY when Attachments removed

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ATTACHMENT B

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF FBIS

On 26 February FBIS will celebrate its 40th anniversary as the U.S. Government monitoring service. This is an appropriate time to glance back over the organization's history and recall some of the milestones in the development of this "service of common concern."

[REDACTED]

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At a meeting of the Defense Communications Board in January 1941, State Department representative Breckenridge Long introduced a resolution calling on the Federal Communications Commission to establish a radio monitoring service. The resolution was passed later in the month, and on 25 February President Roosevelt allotted \$150,000 out of presidential emergency funds for the purpose of monitoring foreign broadcasts. The money was transferred to FCC from the Treasury the following day, and the Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service was born. Headquarters was established [REDACTED]

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The first DAILY REPORT OF FOREIGN RADIO BROADCASTS appeared on 18 November 1941. At about the same time [] a social psychologist at Columbia University was selected to serve as the first head of the Analysis Section--forerunner of today's Analysis Group. That section's first "Weekly Review" appeared on 6 December, the day before the attack on Pearl Harbor. Interestingly enough, the first issue noted that Japanese radio had dropped its tone of caution and was assuming a bellicose attitude. Subsequent efforts of FBMS' fledgling analysis component were focused on the study of Nazi German propaganda, pioneering some of the early techniques that were later to be applied and refined in FBIS analysis of the controlled media of the Soviet Union, China, and other communist countries. []

Other significant milestones in FBMS' first year of operations included the agreement to trade monitored broadcast material with the BBC monitoring service, with [] being selected in October to head the FBMS office in London. The first full-fledged field bureau began operations in October [] with [] as chief. The Program Information Unit, forerunner of the Field Coverage Staff, was established in September. []

Headquarters Locations, Affiliations

In April 1942 the FBMS headquarters moved from its [] location to [], and the following July FBMS was renamed the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service. At the end of the war it appeared that FBIS might be shut down as part of general governmental cutbacks, and all operations formally ceased on 10 December 1945. However, on 2 January 1946 FBIS was taken over by the War Department. Later it became part of the Central Intelligence Group, was placed in the Office of Collection Dissemination, and renamed the Foreign Broadcast Information Service. It was eventually placed in the Office of Operations (OO) and again renamed, this time as the Foreign Broadcast Information Branch. On 22 August 1947 FBIS moved [] to the [] School near the CIA headquarters building on E Street, and on 6 May 1949 it moved into the South Building. It became the Foreign Broadcast Information Division of OO on 26 September 1949 but continued to identify itself as FBIS overseas. On 30 November 1950 FBIS was relocated to [] on Ohio Drive and remained there until February 1956, when it moved to the [] at []. The final move, to Key Building, occurred in early May 1965. []

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On 1 July 1965 the Office of Operations, which had been FBIS' parent component for almost 19 years, was abolished and FBIS became an office in the Directorate of Intelligence. FBID was abandoned as the official name at this time and FBIS became the de jure as well as the de facto name. FBIS was transferred from the DDI to the Directorate of Science and Technology on 22 November 1976.

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Field Bureau Locations

When FBIS was established under the Federal Communications Commission in 1941, FCC's Radio Intelligence Division had shortwave listening posts

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and others flew to Guam in January 1945 to open a new Pacific Bureau. At the time of the Japanese surrender, FBIS Pacific posts were the sole source of Emperor Hirohito's speech ending the war. By 17 May 1946 FBIS had taken over operation of a British monitoring post in Cairo, Egypt, and the Algiers operation closed down. By the end of 1946 FBIS had bureaus functioning in Guam, Kauai, Cairo and London

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The year 1949 saw the opening of Okinawa Bureau. Cruising monitor [] arrived in Okinawa [] on 6 July 1949 to help select the site. [] served as the first bureau chief and [] was named bureau chief on 28 November 1949 when Blake moved []. The first Chinese monitor on Okinawa was [].

The spring of 1949 also saw the beginning of East Coast Bureau operations []. [] was named the first chief of ECB, which was officially activated on 1 April 1950. []

In October 1949 [] arrived in Europe to set up operations in Germany and Austria. Bad Nauheim and Salzburg served as initial sites for what soon became the Frankfurt Vienna bureaus. The German Bureau in Frankfurt was closed in December 1968. A Cologne Coordination Unit was in existence from March 1969 to January 1974, and the subsequent Cologne Unit reopened in July 1979. []

[] a senior editor serving on Okinawa, was sent in the spring of 1952 to establish a monitoring operation in []. This bureau continued in operation, although at three different sites [] until June 1975. []

The Middle East Bureaus have undergone many changes throughout FBIS' 40-year history. FBIS was engaged in monitoring from Algiers as early as 1942, and by 1946 the Cairo Bureau was in operation. The Mediterranean Bureau in Cyprus was activated on 15 April 1949, and the Cairo Bureau closed 5 days later. Medburow was abandoned during the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in July 1974, with TDY operations opening in Athens, Beirut and Tel Aviv to pick up the lost coverage. Tel Aviv became a full-fledged bureau in March 1975 and the Beirut operation was moved to Amman, Jordan, in February of the same year. Nicosia Bureau was also opened in 1975. The Athens Unit continued as a TDY operation until its closure on 16 January 1981. A Gulf Bureau was opened in Bahrain in September 1979. []

The East Coast Bureau, [], was formally closed in April 1968 after most of its coverage was transferred to the Caribbean Bureau [] in November 1965. The Caribbean Bureau, in turn, was closed in July 1973, with coverage dispersed to Panama and Paraguay. Among other bureaus, [] was set up in 1960 to cover Cuba, Panama Bureau was established in 1962, Paraguay in 1973, and Seoul and Hong Kong in 1976. The African Bureau in Kaduna, Nigeria was established in 1960 and closed in April 1976. Abidjan Bureau was opened in April 1979. A monitoring unit was established in Islamabad in 1980. []

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One of the most significant milestones in the history of FBIS was the merger with the Foreign Documents Division of OCR on 8 March 1947. FDD's predecessor organization, the Washington Document Center, was set up in February 1945 as a joint Army-Navy clearing station and evaluation board for captured enemy documents received from the Far Eastern theaters. It was one of three agencies engaged in handling captured enemy documents, the other two being the Pacific Military Intelligence Research Service (PACMIRS) and OP-32F141, established by the Office of Naval Intelligence. On 17 April 1946 the three were combined in the Washington Document Center under the Office of Naval Operations, located in the Steuart Building at 5th and K Streets Northwest. The first head of WDC was Navy Capt Ranson Fullinwider, succeeded in 3 months by Commander Mark T. Little. []

In late 1946 FDD became part of the Central Intelligence Group, first under the Office of Reports and Estimates and then under the Office of Operations. Renamed Documents Branch, it was moved to the [] It became the Foreign Documents Branch on 29 July 1947. []

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Joint Publications Research Service

In February 1951 FDD began Project UT (Unclassified Translations), which ultimately became the Joint Publications Research Service. Project UT set up a company known as Transworld Language Services (TWLS) [] It was converted to corporate status in October of 1952, with a foreign documents officer using a pseudonym as its president. Largely because of management difficulties and threats to its cover, the company was dissolved in November 1957 and all unclassified translation work was shifted to the newly created Joint Publications Research Service. []

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